

its user, process user's options, capture an image disposed within the label capturing means operating envelope, decipher it as a label, and transmit the deciphered data and user options. The MSD 101 communicates with a cellular network 103 preferably through its data channel 102, and through either the internet or a dedicated connection 104, it further communicates with one or more remote servers 105. The remote servers 105 exchange information with MSD 101 and update their own database by tapping on one or more merchant servers 107 through an internet or a dedicated connection 106.

[0035] FIG. 2 is an embodiment of a MSD 201 display screen 202 presenting initial user options such as a plurality of merchants 203 with whom the user may realize a product or service inquiry or a purchase, drafting and editing user's shopping lists, defining user preferences for payment and delivery, and storing user's personal data such as address or credit card.

[0036] FIG. 3 is an embodiment of a MSD 301 display screen 302 formatted according to instructions sent by a remote server, not shown, presenting multiple windows customized according to the MSD 301 functional capabilities. The customized display screen 302 may be partitioned in one or more windows in which the remote server may stream different data customized to the user interests and may include, for example and without limitation, sections pertaining to user's personal information 303, merchant's welcome or other advertisement message section 304, and a list of current shopping or inquiry activities 305.

[0037] FIG. 4 is another preferred embodiment of a MSD 401 display screen 402 depicting a plurality of windows as formatted by instructions sent by a remote server, not shown, to the MSD's specific display capabilities. The MSD 401 capabilities may permit a remote server, not shown, to stream merchant's, competitor's, or third party's audiovisual advertisement, including still pictures and video, through a designated window 404 on the display screen 402. The audio portion of the data may be streamed through the earpiece, not shown, or other available speaker of the MSD. Additional display screen windows may simultaneously depict user's purchase or inquiry list 403, system-operating instructions 405, and allow user interface with the MSD resident software program.

[0038] FIG. 5 is an embodiment of a MSD 501 in the process of capturing a bar code label 503. In the case where the MSD 501 is equipped with video capture means 502, the user points the capture means lens, not shown, towards the bar code label 503. The resident software program may facilitate the capture means lens positioning by presenting a window that operates as a viewfinder 504, as known by persons skilled in the art. The native processing capabilities of MSD 501 deciphers the captured bar code label 503, then converts it into digital data stream and sends it to remote servers, preferably via the data channel, for further processing.

[0039] FIG. 6 is a flowchart of one possible embodiment of the invention. A user begins 601 by activating a MSD, equipped with video capturing means such as a video camera, and initiating a MSD resident software program 602 that will allow the user to interface with the MSD. In this particular embodiment, the MSD resident software program asks the MSD user to select a merchant 603 from list of

merchants. The MSD resident software program will then request the MSD user to select what activity wants to carry out 604. Two activities may be transacted, an inquiry of a product or service's price, availability, or characteristics 610 or a product or service purchase 640.

[0040] If the MSD use desires to carry out an inquiry 610, the MSD resident software program will prompt the MSD user to select whether it would be with the selected merchant 620 or with various merchants for competitive information 621. The MSD resident software program will then inquire whether the MSD user wishes to capture a label 630, related to a product or service, or use a previously drafted shopping list 631. If the MSD user wishes to capture a label, the MSD resident software program will prompt the video capturing means of the MSD and inform the user when it is ready to capture a label. The MSD display screen may show a preview of the label for user approval in a graphic representation of a viewfinder. If the label captured is acceptable, i.e. decodable, to the MSD resident software program 632, it will continue with the next step, otherwise, it will inform the MSD use of the capture failure and request a new label capture. Once the MSD resident software program satisfactorily deciphers the captured image and identifies it as a bar code label, it begins exchanging information with a remote server 633 utilizing preferably the data channel of the cellular communications network. The remote server 633 authenticates the MSD, processes the data received from the MSD, responds to the MSD requests, and sends formatting instructions to the MSD such that the resident software program may format the MSD display screen according to its specific capabilities, including partitioning it into one or more windows. The remote server then sends to one of these windows the MSD user's requested information 634, and it may send to another window and to the device's speaker audiovisual advertisement or related data. The MSD resident software program then inquires 635 whether the MSD user wishes to purchase the inquired product or service. If negative, the MSD resident software program ends 636, otherwise it continues by inquiring the MSD user's desired form of payment 637 and delivery 638, and it then ends 639.

[0041] If the MSD use desires to carry out a purchase 640, the MSD resident software program will inquire from the MSD user whether it would be utilizing an existing purchase list 650 or capturing a new label 660. If the first, the MSD resident software program will enable editing functions to modify the purchase list 651 before actually transacting the purchase. If the MSD user wishes to capture a label 660, the MSD resident software program will prompt the video capturing means of the MSD and inform the user that it is ready to capture a label. The MSD display screen may show a preview of the label for user approval in a graphic representation of a viewfinder. If the label captured is acceptable to the MSD resident software program 661 it will continue with the next step, otherwise, it will inform the MSD user of the capture failure and request a new label capture. Once the MSD resident software program satisfactorily deciphers the captured image and identifies it as a bar code label, it begins exchanging information with a remote server 671, utilizing preferably the data channel of the cellular communications network. The remote server authenticates the MSD, processes the data received from the MSD, responds to the MSD requests, and sends formatting instructions to the MSD such that the resident software program may format the MSD display screen according to